Karur - Dindigul - Madurai-Tuticorin Broadgauge Project

119. SHRI VALAMPURI JOHN: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to allot more funds for the Karutr nDin<digu,l- Madurai—Tuticorin Broadgauge project in the interest of economic and industrial growth of Southernpart of Tamil Nadu; and

(b)' if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT (SHRI BANSI LAL): (a) and (b) The outlay for this project during 1986-87 is Rs. 3.8 crores. Due to severe constraint of resources and heavy commitments already on hand, it is difficult to increase the allotment.

The work is, therefore, being continued according to availability of resources.

Opening of booking counters at Egmore Railway Station

120. SHRI VALAMPURI JOHN: WiH the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased *to* state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the inconveniences faced by public ia queuning up at Railway counter to buy even unreserved tickets at the Central and Egmore stations at Mad-Tas is increasingly turning out to be a horrowing experience; and

(b) whether Government propose to open more counters to manage the rush for the early morning trains and superfast trains like 'Pallavan', 'Vaigai', 'Kovai'?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT (SHRI BANSI LAL): (a) and (b) In order to meet the increasing demand, the number of booking counters has been increased from 70 to 81 from 16-3-86 'at the Centralised Reservation complex at Moore Market. Adequate number of counters for current booking and unreserved tickets have been provided at Madras Central and Egmore stations, including for superfast trains. Whenever there are long queues, action is taken to open additional counters. There is only one early morning train viz. Kovai Express leaving Madras Central and for this tr in, one booking counter to release the available reserved accommodation and another counter for issuing unreserved tickets are opened sufficiently early.

Deepening of Tuticorin port entry channel draft

121. SHRl VALAMPURI JOHN: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any request from the Madurai, Ramnad Chamber of Commerce and general public to deepen t_0 thirty five ft. immediately the port entry channel draft at Tuticorin; and

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take to enable steamers to call at the port in full capacity loads?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) No, Sir. Reports have, however, been received from the Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Tuticorin.

(b) The deepening of the port to 35 ft. draft involves heavy investment as it involves rock dredging. Such heavy investment is not considered viable for the traffic anticipated at the Port. However, dredging the entrance channel from the present 27 ft. to 30 ft. draft is in progress.

दिल्ली परिवहन निगम की बस रूट गाइड

122. श्री अच्छे लाल बारमीक : क्या परिवहन मंत्री 12 मार्च, 1986 को राज्य सभा में अतारांकित प्रश्न 1729 के दिये गए